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# Dranesville Dispatch

May 2006

Volume IX

## *Letter from Supervisor Joan DuBois*

Dear Dranesville District Constituents,

As my fellow Supervisors and I designated May 14-22 as Police Week in Fairfax County and we as a nation also observed May 15 as Peace Officer's Memorial Day, our thoughts as a community turned towards the recent shooting at the Sully District Station. During this time, citizens have the opportunity to reflect on the great sacrifices our fire, police, and military men and women make in order to protect and serve our community each day. In particular, the Board acknowledged active members of the Fairfax County Police Department and the Sheriff's Office. In addition we remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to the community, including Deputy Sheriff George A. Malcolm, Police Officer Karen Bassford, Special Police Officer Hendrik "Sandy" Gideonse, Captain Tommy Bernal and Detective Vicky Armel.

Now we must once again extend our grieving process with the passing of Master Police Officer Michael E. Garbarino. His loss has had a particularly profound impact on the current and former officers who worked with Michael for the past twenty years at the McLean District Station. Please keep the Garbarino and Armel families in your prayers.

While we are deeply saddened by such tragedy, it also reminds us that we must count the many blessings in our lives. We also remember and honor our nation's war heroes this Memorial Day by continuing to celebrate the many freedoms we share as Americans.

This month, you can catch a new episode of Dateline Dranesville focusing on home security with Crime Prevention Officers Pat Lucas and Tom Black. The show will air Sundays and Fridays at 5 p.m. and Wednesdays at 7 p.m. beginning on May 19<sup>th</sup>.

As the summer begins, take the time to enjoy some of the wonderful events at our outstanding Dranesville District parks with family and friends. We have listed several of them in this newsletter. However always check my Web site for updates throughout the season.

As always I am honored to serve you and wish you a safe and happy holiday weekend.

Joan M. DuBois



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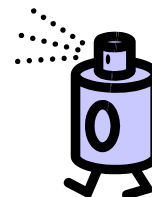
# Fairfax County Household Hazardous Waste Clean-up Day

Saturday, June 3, 2006

9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.



McLean Governmental Center  
1437 Balls Hill Road  
McLean, Va.



*Fairfax County Residents Only*

**What to Bring:** Acids, Aerosol Sprays, Algaecides, Coal Tar Products, Creosote Products, Driveway Sealers, Gas, Floor Care Products, Fungicides, Glue (solvent base), Herbicides, Inks & Dyes, Insecticides, Mercury Products, Moth Balls, Paint, Paint Thinner, Pesticides, Poisons, Pool Chemicals, Rust Removers, Furniture Stains, Varnish, Weed Killers, Wood Preservers, NiCd Rechargeable Batteries.



Practicing  
Environmental  
Stewardship

**What Not to Bring:** Motor Oil, Transmission Fluid, Hydraulic Oil, Antifreeze, Lead Acid Batteries, Compressed Gas Tanks, Safety Flares. These items can be disposed of at Fairfax County's Household Hazardous Waste sites listed on the back of the flyer.

## **Only Household Waste Accepted, No Business or Commercial Waste**

Business Hazardous Waste events (Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator Events) will be held at the I-66 Transfer Station on July 26 and October 4.  
Call (703) 324-5230, TTY 711 to ask about the events or to receive a brochure.



A Fairfax County, Va.,  
publication

Sponsored by: Fairfax County Department of  
Public Works and Environmental Services  
Solid Waste Management Program  
Inquiries: (703) 324-5230, TTY 711  
<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes>

## Pandemic Flu Business Summit

What would happen to your business if Fairfax County or Northern Virginia were affected by a flu pandemic? Could your business function if upwards of 40 percent of your workforce was out sick? How about your suppliers or companies you outsource to? Do you have back-ups in case they are affected?

To help business leaders and owners prepare for such critical questions, Fairfax County will host a Pandemic Flu Business Summit on **Friday, May 26**. The half-day morning summit will be held at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax.

“Maintaining Service Levels” is the theme of Fairfax County’s Pandemic Flu Business Summit to be held on Friday, May 26, for Fairfax County businesses and business owners. Leaders from a variety of industries will give presentations and serve on panels as Fairfax County businesses come together to address planning needs in preparation for a possible pandemic. The summit, requested by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors as a priority initiative, reflects the nationwide effort to prepare and plan now to protect the community later.

To register for the business summit, visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/opa/summitreg.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/opa/summitreg.htm). Information about pandemic flu and Fairfax County’s planning process is available at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency/pandemicflu](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency/pandemicflu). For more information on the Fairfax County Pandemic Flu Business Summit, contact the Fairfax County Office of Public Affairs at 703-324-3187, TTY 711.

## In Remembrance



*Wreaths are placed in Detective Armel’s and MPO Garbarino’s honor outside the McLean Governmental Center.*

On Monday May 8<sup>th</sup>, Detective Vicky Armel was killed at the Sully District Police Station. Master Police Officer Michael Garbarino was critically wounded. Thousands flocked to Armel’s funeral at McLean Bible Church on Saturday May 13<sup>th</sup>, to pay their respects to the fallen officer. Armel is survived by her husband and two children. After 9 days of intensive care, Garbarino succumbed to his wounds while surrounded by his family and friends. He is survived by his wife and two children. His funeral is scheduled for May 20<sup>th</sup> at McLean Bible Church.

If you would like to make a donation to the families:

**ARMEL FAMILY TRUST FUND**  
c/o: Fairfax County Federal Credit Union  
4201 Members Way  
Fairfax, VA 22030

**GARBARINO FAMILY TRUST FUND**  
c/o: Fairfax County Federal Credit Union  
4201 Members Way  
Fairfax, VA 22030

## Parks in Dranesville

This month is a great time to get out and experience the buffet of opportunities at our Dranesville Park Authority sites. Our district is blessed with several unique parks that have features unlike any found elsewhere in Fairfax.

To get away from it all, **Riverbend Park**, the County's only Potomac River access, has naturalist programs for tots to adults and extensive woodland and river front trails. Remember how good a s'more tastes? Riverbend is also planning family campfires and overnight campouts. Coming on Saturdays in June is the free concert series, *Songs on the Potomac* at the Riverbend Visitor's Center.

**Turner Farm Park** equestrian cross country trail is under construction and is planned to be up and running this summer. The planned riding ring will soon follow. On Friday nights, the Analemma Society is out enjoying the night skies beginning at sunset and welcomes all interested stargazers.

The **Cross County Trail** officially opened on Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. This 40 mile trail begins in Great Falls and ends on the Occoquan in Lorton. In addition, many of the district's trails are scheduled for maintenance or repair in the coming weeks, weather permitting.

For the history buff, **Colvin Run Mill**, Fairfax County's award-winning operational 19th century water powered gristmill, offers recreational and educational activities for all ages through daily tours, school programs and special events. On the first and third Sundays, you can watch the miller grind wheat into flour or corn into meal. (Be sure to call ahead to confirm that conditions permit grinding.)

**Clemyjontri Park** is nearing the end of construction and will open this summer. The park features an extensive playground that is not just handicapped accessible but built for children of all abilities to be able to play side-by-side. The carousel, with galloping horses and other animals, will be installed in the heart of the playground.

Music will once again emanate from the bandstand at **McLean Central Park**. The McLean Community Center sponsors the Jammin' Juniors series, free lunchtime concerts on Wednesdays at 12:30 beginning in May. In June, watch for the Summer Sunday concerts every Sunday at 4:00 p.m. Schedules are available at the McLean Community Center's website at: <http://mcleancenter.org>

## 2006 Tree Project Update

Fairfax 2006 Tree Project has been raking in the applications for the 2006 trees available for planting on community property. An initial batch of bare root trees have been distributed and planted, but more trees will be distributed in May for spring planting. Because of the complicated permitting procedures, some projects will be planted this fall.

The goal of 2006 Tree Project is to plant 2006 trees in Fairfax County, 222 in each supervisory district. In partnership with Fairfax ReLeaf, Fairfax Tree Commission, and Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District, free trees are available for planting on community areas at schools, homeowner association lands, stormwater areas, parks, VDOT right of ways and other community properties.

For additional information, contact Fairfax ReLeaf at 703-324-1409, or at their website at: <http://www.geocities.com/fairfaxreleaf/2006treeproject.pdf>



## Dranesville Trails

Trail connectivity throughout Dranesville has always been one of my highest priorities. Fairfax County maintains over 445 miles of roadside trails and 258 miles in stream valley parks. However, as I attempt to fund the design and construction of additional links, I have found that there are two major obstacles that confront me: the lack of existing public right-of-way on which to build these trails and a subsequent need to ask homeowners to grant the county either a permanent easement or a temporary construction easement.

The Virginia Department of Transportation currently requires that trails on roads that are improved with only “ditch” sections, be set back as much as ten feet from the edge of the highway pavement. This distance is mandated to assure the safety of pedestrians and their separation from automobiles. Coupled with current minimum requirements for a 5-foot sidewalk or a 6-foot asphalt trail, this often brings new trails over 15 feet into the front yards of a homeowner. With curb and gutter, the setback is only 2-3 feet, but many homeowners have only a 40 foot front yard and view any change as a significant intrusion.

Despite widespread community interest, I have funded preliminary designs for multiple projects, only to see them ended or shelved by the opposition of affected property owners. The public land acquisition process is quite time consuming, and Fairfax County has not historically exercised its right of eminent domain for trail construction. Even when there is existing publicly owned land for a trail, easement requirements to re-grade driveways or build retaining walls to minimize the slopes for access by disabled residents, can kill a project.

Nevertheless, when new residential subdivisions are created in Dranesville, I always require that that subdivision plans include trail construction if there is any future possibility of completing a larger segment. Construction of single homes do not trigger a trail requirement. Otherwise, I ask for contributions to a Dranesville Walkways fund that is in turn used to fund high priority community connections. My own highest priorities are to build connections into and within commercial districts, connections to public schools, in stream valleys and along Georgetown Pike and Walker Road, radiating out from the Village Center. There is a Comprehensive Trail plan adopted in 2002 that is a guidepost for new trail construction. This plan can be found at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/trailsframe.htm> and a link to the county's new 38 mile Cross County Trail can be found at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/cct/> which includes information on how to access the Great Falls segment of this trail. I always welcome suggestions on connections that may be of interest to Dranesville residents.



*Supervisor DuBois, Supervisor Hudgins, Chairman Connolly, Dranesville Park Representative Kevin Fay and other park authority representatives gather at the opening of the Cross County Trail on May 6<sup>th</sup>.*

The County information line has changed to **703-FAIRFAX** to make it easier for Fairfax County residents to find the information they need. The information line, staffed by the Office of Public Affairs, provides general County information from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. County information is also available during non-business hours on the 24-hour automated information line, **703-324-INFO** and on the County's Web site at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov)

## Ready to Party Like It's 1607?

*Ready to party like it's 1607?* Get the latest news and information by e-mail about next year's celebrations commemorating the 400th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown. Fairfax County's Virginia 2007 Community Citizen Planning Committee encourages residents to sign up for its new e-mail update service.

The committee's e-mail update service periodically will offer information related to the Virginia 2007 celebrations, both in Fairfax County and statewide. As available, information will be provided about the latest news, events, activities or projects.

To sign up for the service, visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/email](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/email). Look under the "General News and Information" category, and subscribe to "Virginia 2007 — 400th Anniversary Celebration Information." Subscribers can opt out of the service at any time, and Fairfax County will not use an e-mail address for any other purpose than to send Virginia 2007 updates.

To celebrate Fairfax County's role in the birth of our nation, the committee will publish an historical anthology. The book will feature vignettes, anecdotal articles, essays and photos that highlight the history of Fairfax County through the last 400 years, since the founding of Jamestown in 1607.

Residents are encouraged to submit items for the anthology. The deadline for submission is June 1, with selections made by Sept. 1. It is anticipated that the volume will be available in early 2007. To learn more about this project or submit an entry, visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/opa/va2007](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/opa/va2007), or call the Office of Public Affairs at 703-324-3187, TTY 711.

### The Journey That Changed the World Visit the ship that brought the first settlers to America

The Fairfax County Virginia 2007 Community Program Committee invites everyone to see the first cruise ship to arrive from Britain to America in 1607. A replica of the Godspeed, one of three original ships that brought the first permanent English settlers to Jamestown, will be at the Alexandria waterfront beginning **Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup>**, through **Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>**.

The Godspeed is a floating museum of early 17th century life. Accompanying the ship are costumed interpreters plus historical and cultural exhibits. Visitors will be able to take a virtual voyage using interactive displays to assist them in understanding the magnitude of the venture. There also will be live musical performances for the whole family. The Godspeed will be anchored near Founders Park/Torpedo Factory/City Marina/Waterfront Park on the Potomac River near Union and Oronoco streets in Alexandria. It is open to the public from 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. on weekdays and 11 a.m. – 8 p.m. on weekends and holidays. Admission to the ship and all activities are free.

Appointed by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, the Fairfax County's Virginia 2007 Community Citizen Planning Committee represents the diversity of communities and resources in the county, including the African American, Hispanic and American Indian communities and representatives from Fort Belvoir, Wolf Trap, George Washington's Mount Vernon and the Fairfax County Convention and Visitors Corporation.

As an official Virginia 2007 Community, Fairfax County is participating in next year's statewide celebrations commemorating the founding of Jamestown. Settled in 1607, Jamestown was America's first permanent English settlement and is, in essence, our nation's birthplace. For more information about Jamestown 2007 and the Virginia 2007 program, visit [www.americas400thanniversary.org](http://www.americas400thanniversary.org) or [www.jamestown2007.org](http://www.jamestown2007.org).

## FY07 Budget Adopted

On May 1, 2006, the Board of Supervisors adopted its 2007 budget, which begins on July 1. In my deliberations, I supported cuts that made possible a reduction in the tax rate of 11 cents, to \$0.89 per \$100 of assessed value. With that rate, the “typical household” will pay \$4,813 next year, an average increase of 7.31 percent or \$328 more than last year. I do recognize that most Dranesville homes are not “typical” and that, for many of you, the increased liability will be significant. However, I did not feel that it would be possible to reduce the rate further without jeopardizing essential services.

The Board’s adopted operating budget next year is \$3.2 billion, an increase of \$192.6 million, or 6.37 % over last year.

Funding for new facilities and public safety accounted for approximately 35 percent of next year’s increase including \$900,000 to expand the police Criminal Investigations Bureau by adding a fraud/financial crimes unit. The Board provided \$2.4 million to fund after school care at all Fairfax County Middle Schools, \$9.3 million to complete the expansion of the courthouse and continued to dedicate one penny of the tax rate for affordable housing and one penny to meet watershed and stormwater management needs.

I am happy to say that \$100,000 was provided to fund staff to operate the Clemyjontri Park in McLean and the Turner Farm Park in Great Falls, both of which are scheduled to open this year. Funding for the Salona conservation easement was also included.

Finally, the Board of Supervisors eliminated the \$25 automobile decal fee, resulting in an average savings of \$58 per household. The Sewer Service charge will increase from \$3.28 to \$3.50 per 1,000 gallons and Refuse Collection rates will increase from \$270 to \$315 per household in those parts of Dranesville that receive County refuse collection services.

Detailed information on the FY 2007 budget, including revisions made during April’s budget mark-up session, are available in my office or on the County’s Web site at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb).



### *How do you retire an American flag?*

American Legion Post 180 has the answer - a drop off box. Worn or damaged flags can be deposited in the box and the American Legion will handle the proper disposal. The box is located just outside of the fire station parking lot, across the street from the Vienna Community Center on Hector Allen Way (the small street between the community center parking lot and the fire station parking lot). [www.alpost180.org](http://www.alpost180.org)

Update our office on your Homeowners Association by sending in your officer information including address, phone, and email to [pamela.wilks@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:pamela.wilks@fairfaxcounty.gov) or calling 703-356-0551.

## Upcoming Events

### Fairfax County's Farmer's Market 2006

Every week, eleven sites throughout Fairfax County become marketplaces for farmers, residents and employees of our communities. Come to your local Farmers Market and find the choicest, freshest and most desirable fruit, vegetables, plants, baked goods, eggs, dairy, and meats available. In Dranesville, come on Fridays to McLean to Lewinsville Park on Chain Bridge Road from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. For more information visit our website at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dranesville](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dranesville) or <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farm-mkt.htm>

### Herndon Friday Night Live

Come celebrate summer with the most popular outdoor concert series in the D.C. Area! Friday Night Live is entering its 12<sup>th</sup> season of offering FREE Friday Night concerts on Herndon's Town Green. The series runs from **May 5-August 25** from 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Friday Night Live, a part of the Herndon Dulles Chamber of Commerce gives money every year to the Herndon All Night Grad Party and the Herndon After Prom Breakfast. For the list of this year's band schedule please call (703) 481-6133 or visit <http://www.herndonrocks.com/>.



*Supervisor DuBois recognizes Dranesville Lord Fairfax, Michael O'Reilly, and Lady Fairfax, Laura Price at the Herndon Town Council meeting. O'Reilly and Price will represent Dranesville at Celebrate Fairfax.*

### Memorial Day Observances

\* Supervisor Joan DuBois will join keynote speaker Congressman Frank Wolf at the Memorial Day observance at the Great Falls Freedom Memorial. The ceremony will begin at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, **May 29<sup>th</sup>** and is open to everyone. The Great Falls Freedom Memorial is located on the grounds of the Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike in Great Falls. The Memorial Day ceremony is one of three observances conducted by the Great Falls Freedom Memorial Committee. For more information, contact President Bob Pattavina at 703-757-7727.

\* The McLean VFW will hold their Memorial Day ceremony at the McLean High School memorial at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, **May 29<sup>th</sup>**.

### Celebrate Fairfax

Celebrate Fairfax marks its 25<sup>th</sup> year! Come experience the sound, sights, tastes, and excitement of the region's signature festival. 400 exhibitors, vendors, and crafters and interactive activities along with 80 concerts on six outstanding festival stages! Runs **June 9-11** at the Fairfax County Government Center. For more information [www.celebratefairfax.org](http://www.celebratefairfax.org) or 703-324-3247.

### Great Falls Park Centennial Celebration

Great Falls Park, a unit of the George Washington Memorial Parkway, National Park Service, will be celebrating its 100th anniversary with a two-day celebration on Saturday, **July 1<sup>st</sup>** and Sunday, **July 2<sup>nd</sup>**. Activities, exhibits, entertainment and Ranger-led programs will highlight the park's history through the past century. The park is seeking photographs, artifacts and anecdotes related to the park's history to display at the event. Please contact Supervisory Ranger Jesse Reynolds if you have an item that you would like to temporarily loan to the park, 703-757-3113.



## Barbeque Grilling Basics

Everyone loves a cookout and barbeque. However, cookouts can lead to tragedy if they are not properly planned. Here are some safety tips for a happy and safe cookout season:

- Never use gasoline to start a charcoal fire.
- Use charcoal lighter fluid safely and prudently. Adding more fluid on hot coals may ignite the stream of fuel and burn back into the can, causing it to explode.
- Consider using a U.L. approved electrical starter in place of lighter fluid.
- Place grills away from structures and combustibles (**minimum 15 feet**) so they will not tip over or ignite objects above them. One of the biggest dangers with grills is trying to use them on apartment or condominium balconies. This practice is unsafe and against the law.
- Never bring a grill into the home. The carbon monoxide produced by burning charcoal is dangerous, and deadly.
- Keep a garden hose or a portable fire extinguisher handy in case a fire in the grill gets out of control. Call 911 immediately.
- Keep children and pets away from fires and grills. It only takes a second for curiosity to cause a serious burn.
- Though coals may appear to be cool, always soak them with water. Coals retain enough heat to reignite for days after a fire.
- If your bag of charcoal gets wet, leave it in a well ventilated area away from the house. During the drying process spontaneous ignition can occur in confined areas.

For more information on grilling or other fire safety tips please contact:

**Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department**

4100 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, Virginia 22030

Phone: 703-246-3801, TTY: 703-385-4419, and Fax: 703-385-1687

Duty PIO (Weekends/After-hours): 703-280-0694

## *Dranesville District Congratulations*

\* To **PFC Edgard Cartagena** for receiving the 2005 McLean District Station Citizens Advisory Committee's Police Officer of the Year Award.

\* To **Grace Wolf** (Council for the Arts of Herndon), **Gary Gepford** (Herndon High School Teacher, SAGA Sponsor and EXCEL program sponsor), and **Betty Hatfield** (Main Street Program) for becoming the Town of Herndon's Distinguished Volunteers for 2006.

\* To **Langley High School** and **McLean High School** for making Newsweek's America's Top 100 Best High Schools.

\* To the Fairfax County Redevelopment and Housing Authority's **Herndon Harbor House** project, in connection with the Fortnightly Boulevard development, for being selected by HAND to receive the 2006 Housing Achievement Award for Community Life Program for Northern Virginia.

\* To our Dranesville District 2006 National Scholastic Art Awards recipients:

- Gold Awards: **Kate Nishimura** of McLean High School for her "Venice" printmaking;  
**Patricia Tertell** of McLean High School for her "Samurai" ceramics and glass.
- Silver Awards: **Andrew Vardell** of Cooper Middle School for his "Autumn Breeze" sculpture;  
**Elizabeth Shapiro** of McLean High School for her "Martin the Dreamer" drawing;
- Silver Awards for senior portfolio: **Staci Celinski** of Herndon High School for receiving an American Visions Award for "Bobble Head" in the photography category.

\* To **Nancy Gunderman**, a bus driver for the McLean High School pyramid, one of two people awarded Fairfax County Public Schools' Support Employee of the Year Awards. Gunderman was nominated by Colvin Run Elementary School third-grader Harris LaTeef.

\* To McLean High School student **Joanna Berg** who was one of 32 students in Fairfax County Public Schools named a National Merit Scholarship Corporation finalist.